

# Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

## Kentucky Archives Month Observed

### October 2014

**Press Release Date:** Monday, September 29, 2014

**Contact Information:**

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 29, 2014) – Kentucky archival and manuscript repositories throughout the state will observe October 2014 as Kentucky Archives Month, in conjunction with American Archives Month. This year's theme is *agriculture*, in honor of Kentucky's notable agrarian heritage.

Nearly 300 repositories in Kentucky preserve archival and manuscript records that provide a rich and varied picture of the history of Kentucky. Their collections include personal papers, photographs, Bibles, diaries and government records, such as marriage certificates and wills. Many institutions host special programs, open houses, exhibits and speakers during the month to highlight historical materials available for research. A list of these events is on the Kentucky Archives Month website at <http://archivesmonth.ky.gov>.

To commemorate Kentucky Archives Month, the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) will present three Certificates of Merit, two for Significant Service as a Public Official and one for Significant Service by a Private Citizen.

James Russell Harris, recently retired senior associate editor for the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, will receive one of the Certificates for Significant Service by a Public Official. Over his 37-year career, Harris has worked diligently to nurture and advance historical scholarship in the state and throughout the South. He has also developed an exemplary and comprehensive knowledge of archival collections across Kentucky.

Charlene E. Davis, former director for the State Library Services Division and acting director for the Field Services Division at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), will be posthumously awarded the other Certificate of Merit for Significant Service as a Public Official. Throughout her 37-year career, Davis worked to ensure equal and open access to information and collections, and provided advice and assistance to the Kentucky State Archives. She was instrumental in the development of the Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL), and she was a strong advocate for the use of developing technologies in Kentucky's public libraries. Davis was highly respected by her peers and her co-workers, and her many achievements are a testament to her dedication to access of information in Kentucky libraries.

Jack Fox, volunteer coordinator of the WHAS Radio Oral History Project at the University of Louisville Oral History Center, will receive a Certificate of Merit for Significant Service by a Private Citizen. For the past three years, Fox has worked on this project to document the history of the WHAS radio station in Louisville. This project is particularly significant because the history of broadcasting is an under-represented area in the historical record.

Kentucky Archives Month is sponsored by the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. For more information, call 502-564-8300 ext. 246.